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OK TO ENTER: /MR/ (04/27/2009) **RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**  
**- EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -**  
**EXAMINING GROUP ART UNIT 3773**

Atty. Docket No: 2850 (203-3277)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Cunningham et al.

EXAMINER: Melissa K. Ryckman

SERIAL NO.: 10/618,990

GROUP: Art Unit 3773

FILED: July 14, 2003

DATED: March 23, 2009

FOR: **SURGICAL COBRA HEAD SUTURE NEEDLE**

Confirmation No.: **5967**

Mail Stop: **AF**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office mailed on January 21, 2009, please consider the above-identified application as follows:

A complete **listing of the Claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on date below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 23, 2009

Paul J. Natof